

HELENA - The Montana Department of Environmental Quality reports that Columbia Falls Aluminum Company and Calbag Resources LLC, the demolition contractors, have agreed to address potential violations of the Montana Hazardous Waste Act at the aluminum reduction facility's Pot Room Building in Columbia Falls.

The facility contains 451 aluminum reduction cells which contain a listed hazardous waste derived from spent pot liners. DEQ, CFAC and Calbag entered into an Administrative Order on Consent to address the need for a hazardous waste management permit to store the waste on-site for more than 90 days, and to address the potential that CFAC and/or Calbag may violate hazardous waste accumulation and storage time limits.

This Consent Order does not address the demolition and disposal of any other building, structure, or equipment associated with aluminum processing or reduction at the old CFAC plant, according to a news release. The agreement also does not address the release of Superfund hazardous substances at the site.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is still working with the DEQ "through a separate process to ensure a protective cleanup of the site under the federal Superfund program," the release states.

EPA has proposed the site to the National Priorities List and the state of Montana supports this listing of CFAC.

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